JEFFERSON PROVING GROUND RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

ORIGINAL

DATE:

November 4, 1998

TIME:

7:00 P.M.

PLACE:

Madison-Jefferson Public Library

Madison, IN 47250

PRESENT:

Paul Cloud, Co-Chair Richard Hill, Co-Chair

Karen Mason-Smith

Ken Knouf

Sharon Shields, Reporter

Audience Members

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A public hearing of the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board Hearing was held in the Madison-Jefferson County Public Library at Madison, IN at 7:00 P.M. on November 4, 1998.

OPENING STATEMENTS BY MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Okay I would like to welcome everyone to the November meeting of the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board. Glad everybody could make it and responded. And Richard do you have any opening remarks before I get started?

OPENING STATEMENTS BY MR. RICHARD HILL:

I would just like to welcome everybody also. And that's about it for now. I guess I've got one (1) or two (2) items, informational type things that will be real short that I will just bring up later that I didn't think about getting on the agenda. But they won't be lengthy.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Okay I would like to get started. The next slide, and there are copies of the slides, and please sign in on the attendance sheet. This is our agenda for the

The first item on the agenda is the status of the Technical Assistance for Public Participation application that the community members of the RAB provided to the Army back in September. As I just mentioned to Richard the application has been reviewed by the Army Environmental Center and the Army has been approved. The funding request has been forwarded up to the Army Material Command. would expect funding to be provided before the end of the It has been our request that the contract would be administered through the Louisville Corps of Engineers. And as soon as the funds are available, this is just the start of the fiscal year, don't expect any funds to be available for a few more weeks yet, we will proceed on and then the TAPP application contract letting will be - that process will start. Are there any questions regarding the status of that particular application or where it stands? Okay the next item is new Findings of Suitability to Transfer. the last meeting we talked about two (2) Findings of Suitability to Transfer. One (1) of those findings has been canceled. And that is the northern airfield parcel. interest that had been expressed in that parcel has canceled and we are now going to consolidate that hundred and thirty (130) acre approximate area parcel into a FOST for the whole airfield. Currently the UXO clearance work in that area is

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complete. The clearance report is being reviewed by the Army and the Huntsville Corps of Engineers. When that report comes out and a statement of clearance is signed probably before the end of the year we will be looking sometime at the beginning of the year at a FOST that would encompass more of the airfield area. I don't have specifics yet but I can show you on this slide the area that would be potentially encompassed which would be this area in white (indicating) here, something like that. We haven't made any final determination on details on that yet. The FOST that is being processed, in fact I worked on it today, made some modifications to it is what has been referred to as a central area FOST. That FOST encompasses an area that's somewhere between a thousand (1,000) and fifteen hundred (1500) acres in the central portion of the cantonment area. That's approximately ninety (90) buildings. We expect that the comment period will start sometime about the first of December. Next week we will be doing a second review of the document within the Army and then it will come out for the thirty (30) day review after everyone in the Army agrees with the content of the document. To give you an idea of where that is located, it is the area that is highlighted here (indicating). For information it starts you know for description purposes you know in the southeast corner at

Gate 22 which is the souther boundary and Shun Pike. goes along the southern boundary to the southern boundary western extreme up on the western boundary to basically where Harvard's Creek comes out, goes due east ah several hundred yards around the sewage treatment plant which is our remedial investigation site. We're trying to cut out a number of areas. And then it goes up to Engineer's Row ah to where Engineer's Row runs in to PaperMill. It goes up PaperMill until we get to Noblow and then over just north of the water tower and then down Artillery Road to where it intersects Meridian. Up Meridian to just south of the railroad tracks and west until it runs into Shun Pike and then down Shun Pike. This one (1) little dog leg here is to incorporate the buildings, complex area, where the solid waste management district has their buildings. The other area that is excluded is this area right here (indicating). This is the abandoned landfill. We have purposely cut this out and excluded it from the transfer parcel so that we will not have to deal with certain concerns about including a remedial investigation site within the proposed transfer Are there any questions regarding this particular FOST?

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MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Paul I have a question. For my clarification the first FOST that you said that was canceled that's the one hundred (100) --

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

That's the airfield area.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

The previous one hundred and twenty (120) acres?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yes. Any other questions? Okay. The next subject I would like to briefly bring you up to speed on is the status of the removal of unexploded ordnance in the cantonment area. As I just previously stated the area that has been completed is this airfield area (indicating). The report for that whole area is currently being reviewed and revised. We would expect as I said before the Statement of Clearance in the final clearance report to come out before the end of the year and then with that document we will proceed with the issuing or commenting the FOST on some greater portion of this airfield area after the first of the

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The - I think as everyone knows the Corps of Engineers did their archives search report for the Proving Ground back in 1995. For the cantonment area they identified a little over twenty-two hundred (2200) acres that had potential for UXO. The Army's commitment was to clear that to a depth of four (4) feet. Anything deeper than that for excavation purposes ah would be the responsibility of the new owner. This is our schedule (indicating). I think you've seen this slide before. You can see we did the search report. We did our first survey and removal of the hundred (100) acre parcel. This thirty (30) acre parcel is on the northeast quadrant of the cantonment area. That was - that's been done. The airfield area is now done. The area south of Krueger Lake is done with the exception of a number of grids that encompass a former mortar test range which is currently being worked. That work will continue probably until the end of the first quarter of calendar year 1999. At least that's the projection right now. The western parcel we are looking at doing a little differently. All of these previous efforts have been time critical removal. This western parcel does not belong in the Lease in Furtherance of Conveyance to the Ford Lumber and Building Supply Company. If you recall correctly that parcel was previously ah claimed by the

community. In fact it's basically this green outline area here (indicating) on the map. In the property screening process if you recall the community did claim that initially for a park in the Public Benefit Conveyance. subsequently modified that request and took this parcel out. That parcel still belongs to the Army and is not part of the Lease in Furtherance however one (1) of the conditions in the invitation for bids for identifying the successful bidder for the property did state that the successful bidder would essentially have a first right of refusal for that parcel when and if it becomes available. And it is still currently the Army's intention that the UXO is addressed in that area to offer it for sale. The mechanism we are looking at to address UXO in that particular area is via an EE/CA process, Engineering Evaluation Cost Analysis, and an Action Memorandum. We are looking at doing a risk based approach via physical removal, intensive removal like we're doing in the rest of the areas. And the reason why is that this particular area if you've ever seen it is very heavily vegetated with trees. And to get in there and do the intensive effort that we're doing and that we've done in the other areas would basically require to cut down a lot of those trees which we are adverse to do. So we are looking at alternative mechanisms and methods and we are also

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hopeful that we would save several million dollars in the This gives a little background as to what's been done, the statistics. These haven't changed. You've seen this slide before. It shows you what we can do for the hundred (100) acre parcel and the thirty (30) acre parcel. This eight (8) acre parcel was south of Krueger Lake. was a surface clearance only. We have subsequently gone In fact this is part of the old mortar field that back in. they are currently working on now. The surface clearance was done back in the summer of '96. They are currently doing the four (4) foot clearance there now. This is where we stand with the airfield. Again the airfield is complete, the removal reported being reviewed. So these numbers should not change. I have not seen any updates on them since the last report. This is current as of the end of last week. I just received an update on the last week's work south of Krueger Lake yesterday. In fact I updated the web site yesterday also and you will see these numbers reflected on the JPG web site for explosives and ordnance. And then as soon as we get our funding for the new fiscal year we expect to continue on with the next phase of the EE/CA process on the western park parcel. Are there any questions regarding the unexploded ordnance removal? Yes?

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MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

I have a question on the airfield area. Ah the last status report that we received had that the airfield area was complete. But it also had that the completion wasn't expected until November 13th. So you just said that it was complete.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

The work is done. The field work is done. The administrative paper processing is not.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

So they don't consider it complete until --

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

The contract is not completed until the clearance report is accepted and we have a Statement of Clearance.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Okay. Thank you.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Are there any other questions regarding the

unexploded ordnance?

MR. KEN KNOUF:

Paul what kind of guidance will there be down the road for people who do want to build out there going deeper than four (4) feet? Will they be told or there's a remote change or maybe something that they do?

Obviously it's your cost to remove it or else does the Army want them to do any kind of a more comprehensive sweep if they go down four (4) feet?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

It's going to depend on site specifics and excavation specifics. The reason I say that - I will give you an example. Go back to the map here of the cantonment area. (Indicating) The FOST that had been prepared for the hundred and thirty (130) acre parcel over here in the airfield.

MR. KEN KNOUF:

Un-huh (yes).

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

In that area just like all the other areas

that have been done to date, the Army did a four (4) foot clearance. However, based on what was found in that specific area, that hundred and thirty (130) parcel, the types of ordnance and the number of ordnance, but more specifically the types, Huntsville Corps of Engineers made a determination that there was nothing there to the best of their judgment that had the capability to go below four (4) So the clearance for that parcel was an unrestricted feet. clearance. There was no excavation prohibition for that Now I don't know how that will apply to the rest of parcel. the airfield or over here at Krueger Lake or any place else yet. We will obviously seek to have the least restrictive excavation clearance we can but we will still tend to play fair on the side of conservatism, protect. And in all cases there will always be a statement in any FOST and deed that will basically alert future owners that this was a military installation. There is still a chance and if you do find something here is the process to go through. Notify the Corps of Engineers. They will get a hold of Huntsville. You know notify the sheriff, so on and so forth.

MR. KEN KNOUF:

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And will support Mr. Ford and make the same kind of statements in the future land dealings he has with

them?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yes. That would be standard language in any deed and any transfer document not only from the Army to Mr. Ford but it's my understanding it would also be required on future transfers also. Basically notifications like that would be a run with the land I think is the legal term.

Does that answer your question?

MR. KEN KNOUF:

Yes.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Any other questions? That's all I have as far as formal information and status right now. Richard you said you had a few things? I think we are at our open discussion period.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Yeah just a couple. Ah I'm really sorry there's not more community RAB members here tonight for two (2) or three (3) reasons. One (1) being is that I wanted to get rid of a couple of these (indicating). Don't look Bob.

You are the only one in this room who doesn't have one (1).

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MR. BOB HUDSON:

It's a good thing. Give him another one

MR. RICHARD HILL:

He's got plenty. I have Volume 1-A and 1-B of the Draft Phase 2 Remedial Investigation. I have actually three (3) extra sets of those but I could only carry two (2) at a time. So I brought two (2).

MR. BOB HUDSON:

It's a good thing I brought my truck.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Just two (2) of these books. If you would just take two (2) of these books I would just be so happy.

MR. BOB HUDSON:

For the record I will take two (2) of the books.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Thank you very much.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

But he didn't say what he was going to do with them.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

I'm storing these upstairs in my house and they're going to come down and hurt somebody and so I've got to do something with them. So - and there's actually six (6) other volumes I think that go with this but I don't have extras of all those.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Those are all the lab results.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Yeah it's the real logs and things like that. This is summaries and that sort of thing in here. So I guess maybe I can get rid of one (1) set anyway. And the only other thing I think I just wanted to comment a little bit on the RAB decision in Document for No Further Action for sites five (5) and six (6). I just - I have drafted up

1 a memo to the community RAB members giving them a brief 2 summary of what that is about. I don't think we have to go 3 into it here. We all know what that's about. And basically 4 stating in the memo that I myself anyway feel obligated to 5 make some kind of comment just a - I ah - I have viewed the 6 draft decision document, the technical memorandum to the 7 best of my ability which is not the best you can get. But I 8 did go through them and I don't have any major problems with 9 what's in there but I still feel like we should make a - at 10 least I would like to open it up to the community RAB members to make comments. And I would volunteer to just 11 12 maybe compile their comments and submit them all together 13 not saying who said what but these are some questions or 14 these are some comments. That's what we've got. 15 going to mail that out. How do you two (2) guys feel about

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that?

MR. BOB HUDSON:

It sounds good to me.

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MR. RICHARD HILL:

Okay.

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MR. KEN KNOUF:

If I want to make any comments Richard I send my comments to you?

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Yes. Well you don't have to though. I made that clear in the memo also. You can make your own comments too or I would be glad to compile them and send them all in together. I don't think anybody knows exactly how it's supposed to work. I thought that would work.

MR. BOB HUDSON:

Sounds like a good approach to me.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

So I will send that out. As I said I think that the wells of contamination are very low there so there's not a big thing to worry about as far as that's concerned. I agree with - with restrictions on drinking water wells although that's probably a moot point because you can't get water out of that ground anyway. But it wouldn't hurt to put it in there I guess. Non residents will use - makes - it's good prudent thing to do I think. Okay.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

The last thing I have is that if you notice on the agenda down at the bottom where we normally identified the date and place for the next RAB meeting the 1999 schedule is still being worked on. I expect to have that out by the end of this month. I will generate a letter for Richard and I to send out to RAB members and then I will send out a similar letter to people that are on our mailing list which is about another hundred and eighty (180) and it will also be posted at the web site which it currently is but obviously it will be updated. So I would expect by the end of the month we will have the 1999 schedule. Right now the next meeting will be in January. Don't have the specific date yet but I'm working on that right now. will get that out before the end of the month. Other than that that's all I have. Are there any comments, questions from anyone?

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MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Yeah I have one (1). Basically I just wanted to talk to the RAB about the - the most recent document that EPA has reviewed and that was the RCRA open burning unit closure plan for the - for the Army. And we've completed our review. We provided a conditional concurrence

or approval to the Army to proceed with working out there but also it's a requirement for us to put a public notice in the paper to solicit - to solicit comments. And it would be a thirty (30) day review comment period. And I just wanted to let the - let the RAB members know that that is going to be coming out.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Okay.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

And that would be a press release. It will be in the Madison Courier. And the date that we expect to do that is November 30th. So the comments would be due around either December 30th or sometime around the first week of January.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Okay.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

We have reviewed it. You know if you would like to see our comments that's fine.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Yeah that would be good.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Just wanted to make you aware of that.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

One (1) thing I would suggest before you put out your notice is we need to discuss the citation that you referenced to me yesterday. I started to look at that and it's not clear that that particular citation applies in this case. I need to do some more research on that. I just looked at it briefly this morning. So we need to talk about that more before you put out a notice.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Okay.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

It's not clear that that's applicable.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Okay I have a question. When you say the citation you mean --

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

The 40CFR265.113.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Okay.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

And I just started looking at it this morning and I will look at it more next week and get back to you.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Okay. But I have discussed that in our office and ah that's the direction that I've been given.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

I understand that.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

We can talk about that some more.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

It's not clear that the Army currently agrees that that citation is applicable. There may be

another one (1) that is applicable but on initial review it's not clear that that is an applicable citation. So I would have to look some more at that.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

So we can discuss that further?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yes. Anything else? Ken?

MR. KEN KNOUF:

I might just add that early on in this process with the original development of the RAB we had several people attend who were interested in site issue, whether they be cultural resources, wildlife, history, this kind of thing. And of course we're told that this is not the appropriate form for that kind of discussion. So some of you may know or may not know that a group has formed or is forming that potentially would be like a friends of JPG group under the auspices of Historic Hoosier Hills which is USDA, Gary Conner up in Versailles a group that's formed. Right now no mission statement or anything but interested in protecting and preserving and telling the story of the military history of JPG making sure that Old Timbers is

protected, the bridges are maintained, that kind of thing. And it seems to be a pretty enthusiastic group, right now about twenty (20) to twenty-five (25) people. Richard took some folks on a tour here a couple of weeks ago and it's a group that wants to do some things. Gary Conner has indicated there may be some grant money available. Joe Robb from Fish and Wildlife Service would certainly like to talk to this group about as the refuge concept is developing will this group be a friend of the refuge also? I don't think there's a problem with that.

MR. JOE ROBB:

Typically refuges have friends of refuges group and they usually - it's a way to let's say if there's an endowment from an ordnance manufacturing or an endowment they can do a lot more with grant workings and things like that because they are a friend. They are not a federal entity. And it's very common that these - they might have book store, nature center that they will run and they are both cultural resources and all kinds of things. So that's a very common thing on behalf of that wildlife refuge.

MR. KEN KNOUF:

Right. So if you run into folks who are a

little frustrated because maybe they think they are not getting the answers in this group, there is a group out there that may be of more interest to them where they can find that kind of information.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Thank you. Anything else? I think that's it then. I appreciate everyone coming down and as soon as we have the schedule we will move on. I would hope to get into more substantive issues after the first of the year. And we will go from there. Thank you very much.

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CONCLUSION OF HEARING

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF INDIANA)

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON)

I, Sharon Shields, do hereby certify that I am a Notary Public in and for the County of Jefferson, State of Indiana, duly authorized and qualified to administer oaths; That the foregoing public hearing was taken by me in shorthand and on a tape recorder on November 4, 1998 in the Madison-Jefferson Public Library, Madison, IN; That this public hearing of the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board Hearing was taken pursuant to agreement for taking at this time and place; That the testimony of the witnesses was reduced to typewriting by me and contains a complete and accurate transcript of the said testimony.

I further certify that pursuant to stipulation by and between the respective parties, this testimony has been transcribed and submitted to the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal this <u>Jack</u> day of November, 1998.

Sharon Shields, Notary Public Jefferson County, State of Indiana

My Commission Expires:

July 2, 1999